

WINDSOR LOCKS POLICE COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Commissioners present:	Chairman Kevin Brace, Neal Cunningham, James Gaylord, Edward Lanati , Michael Royston and Ricardo Rachele
Commissioners absent:	None
Also Present:	Chief Eric Osanitsch

- 1) **Call to Order** – Chairman Brace called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.
- 3) **Public Input** –

Christine Lesnieski – 12 Arbor Lane – Ms. Lesnieski urged the Commission to do whatever it takes to make sure Sgt. Koistinen is not reinstated. She stated that his actions served himself rather than the Community. She believes that his return will undermine everything the Commission has done to rebuild the W LPD so far.

Charles & Karren Zenzick – 35 Grove Street – Mr. & Mrs. Zenzick handed the Commission a petition signed by Grove Street residents encouraging the Commission to fight the decision by the State Labor Board to reinstate Sgt. Koistinen.

Michael Bracken – 12 Tinker Drive – Mr. Bracken stated that at the end of the Rudewitz investigation, he asked Chairman Cunningham if he was going to use Sgt. Koistinen's beating of a prisoner as evidence in his termination hearing. He feels that showing a history of past inappropriate behavior would have been helpful in proving he should be terminated now.

William Rousseau – 407 Elmwood – 1) He thanked the Commission for adding back the second Public Input to the meetings; 2) He asked that the most recent crime stats be added to the website; 3) He asked the Commission to caution the recording secretary not to editorialize the minutes; 4) He agreed with the Public that he does not want Sgt. Koistinen back at the WLPD and encouraged the Commission to appeal; 5) He read an editorial he had recently posted on Patch.

Karen Giannelli – 2 Columbo Terrace – Ms. Giannelli read a letter she had recently sent to the Commission where she asked them to pursue whatever it takes to appeal Sgt. Koistinen's reinstatement to the WLPD.

Kim Pease – 3 Tinker Drive – She also supported the Commission's decision to fire Sgt. Koistinen and asked them to do what was needed to keep him from coming back.

Karren Zenzick – 35 Grove Street – Ms. Zenzick stated that Henry Dang has no voice here because his life and future ended that night. She added that it was not right to let Sgt. Koistinen back to serve Windsor Locks where he is clearly not wanted.

- 4) **Approval of the minutes for the meeting of February 24, 2014.**

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the February 24, 2014 meeting.
Neal Cunningham
Motion Passed Unanimously

Seconded by Michael Royston

- 5) **Correspondence** – In addition to the letters that were read by the Public, three other pieces of correspondence were read in support of terminating Sgt. Koistinen.

6) **Chief's Report –**

- Chief Osanitch passed out a packet that included a press release regarding Active Shooter Training. He stated the training was a regional effort and included Officers from Windsor Locks, Manchester and East Windsor. All the Windsor Locks Officers (except two) are now up-to-date on this training.
- The packet also included three Fund Transfer Requests that were submitted to the Board of Finance the prior week. They were for transfers from one line item to another within the PD budget. The Commission discussed whether traditional protocol was followed in requesting these transfers. The Chief answered that he did not know what traditional protocol was for transfer requests but did state that they are normally done at the end of a budget year. Commissioner Cunningham stated that in the past it was brought before the Commission or only the Chairman depending on the urgency of the request.
- The Chief also gave an update on the 2013-2014 budget. He stated that the transfers discussed are not reflected in this version of the budget. Commissioner Rachele questioned the amount of the overtime transfer. He stated it seemed high for a two month period and requested a breakdown of how the overtime was spent.

7) **MOU regarding Lieutenants position –**

The Lieutenant position was created after the new contract was ratified. The MOU was written to make the language in line with the other promotions in the contract. A discussion continued regarding who would be eligible for these positions, whether or not testing was required, and who would be making the decisions as to who ultimately gets hired. Commissioner Rachele asked if there was a job description written for the Lieutenant position. The Chief answered no but that he was working with Human Resources on updating and/or creating all job descriptions. Commissioner Royston requested they wait to approve the MOU until the job description was complete. Commissioner Gaylord stated that the MOU was regarding promotions and not what the job entails.

MOTION: To accept the MOU as written.

James Gaylord

Seconded by Edward Lanati

Vote: 4 Votes in favor – EL, KB, JG, NC; 2 Opposed – RR, MR

Motion Passes

8) **Executive Session –**

To discuss pending litigation regarding Robert Koistinen.

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session at 7:45 to discuss pending litigation regarding Robert Koistinen. Chief Osanitsch, Attorney Kevin Deneen, and BOF Chairman Douglas Glazier were invited to attend.

James Gaylord

Seconded by Edward Lanati

Motion Passed Unanimously

MOTION: To end Executive Session at 8:43.

Michael Royston

Seconded by Edward Lanati

9) **Possible Vote –**

MOTION: To appeal the State Labor Board's decision to reinstate Sgt. Koistinen.

Michael Royston

Seconded by Neal Cunningham

Vote: 5 Votes in favor – MR, EL, KB, JG, NC; Commissioner Rachele abstained

Motion Passes

Commissioner Brace read a statement explaining the Commission's decision (posted on website).

10) **Public Input –** Windsor Locks residents Michael Bracken, Kim Pease and Karen Giannelli agreed with the Commission's decision to appeal and thanked them for it

11) **Commissioner's Comments** – None.

12) **Adjournment** –

**MOTION: To adjourn at 8:47 pm.
Edward Lanati
Motion Passed Unanimously**

Seconded by James Gaylord

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Pfaffenbichler
Recording Secretary

A recording of this meeting is available on CD in the Town Clerk's Office.